MIDI TOOLSET 002

MANUAL + USER GUIDE

MIDI TOOLSET 002

Obligatory Legal Stuff

Thank you for purchasing this collection of creative Max for Live MIDI Tools!

License Agreement:

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Important Info

These tools require Live 12.1.5 or Live 12.1.5 Suite with Max for Live installed; we strongly recommend Live 12.1.5 or higher with Max 8.6.5 or higher.

Please note that once installed, since MIDI Tools are not Max MIDI Effects, they cannot be dragged and dropped onto MIDI tracks: they can only be loaded via the Generator and Transformer tabs of the MIDI clip editor.

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Installation Instructions

To install MIDI Toolset 002, first double-click to decompress the ZIP archive it arrived in. Presumably you've already done this, because you're reading the manual, also included in said ZIP — good job!
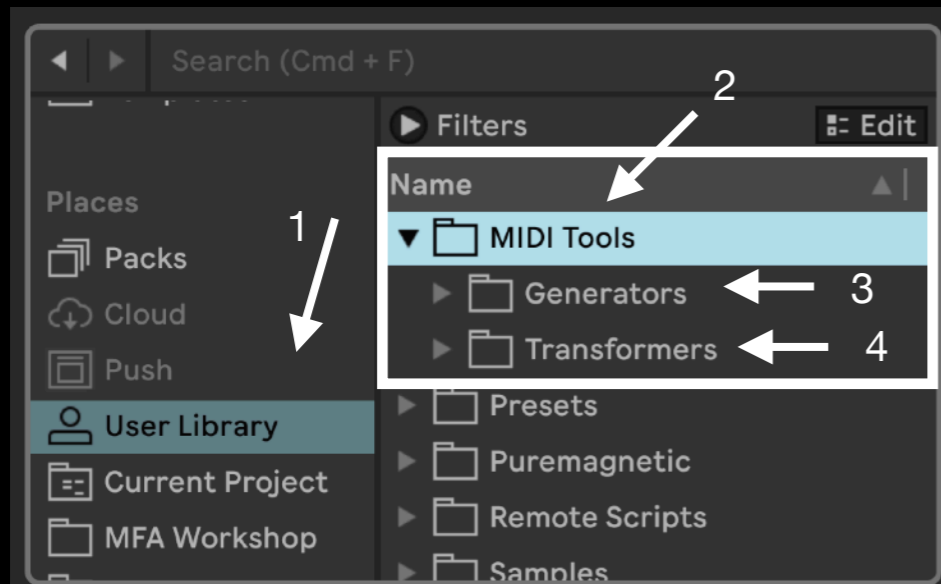
In Live's Browser, navigate to the User Library in Places (1). Then find the MIDI Tools folder located there (2). If you don't see a folder called MIDI Tools in your User Library, simply create it yourself.

Finally, drag our Generators to the Generators subfolder (3), and our Transformers to the Transformers subfolder (4). Again, if these subfolders don't exist yet, create them yourself.

Live should automatically detect them and within the next few minutes, they should appear in the dropdown chooser of Live's Generators or Transformers in the corresponding tab of any MIDI Clip's Note Editor.

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Generator Instantiation
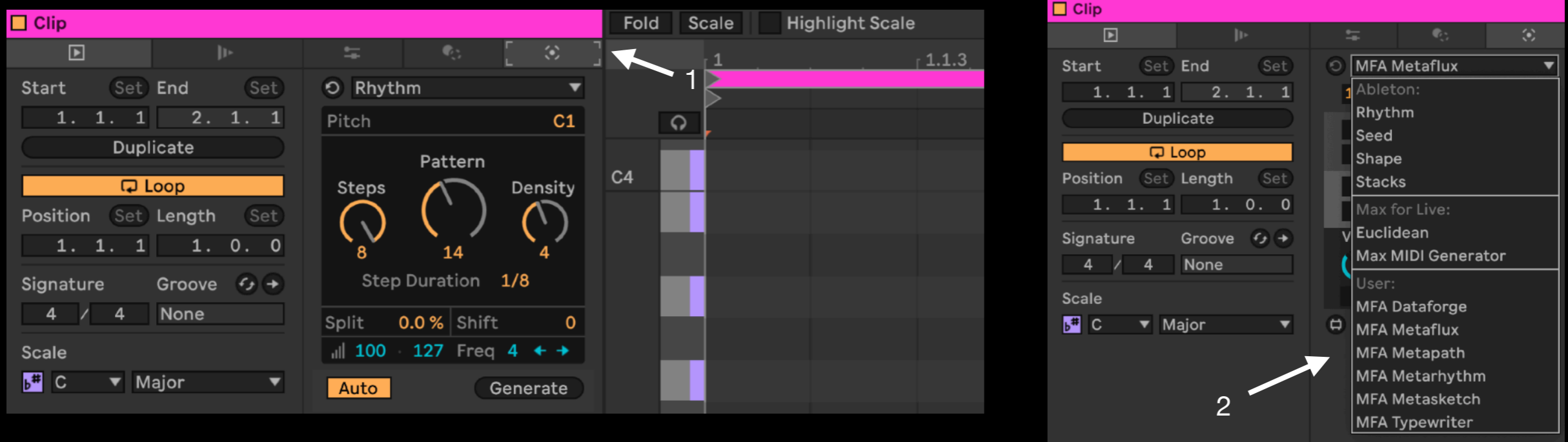
Now that you've installed your MIDI Tools in Live's User Library, they can be accessed via Live's MIDI clip editor.

To load one of our Generators, select the Generator tab (1) and choose one from the User section of the drop-down menu (2).

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Transformation Instantiation
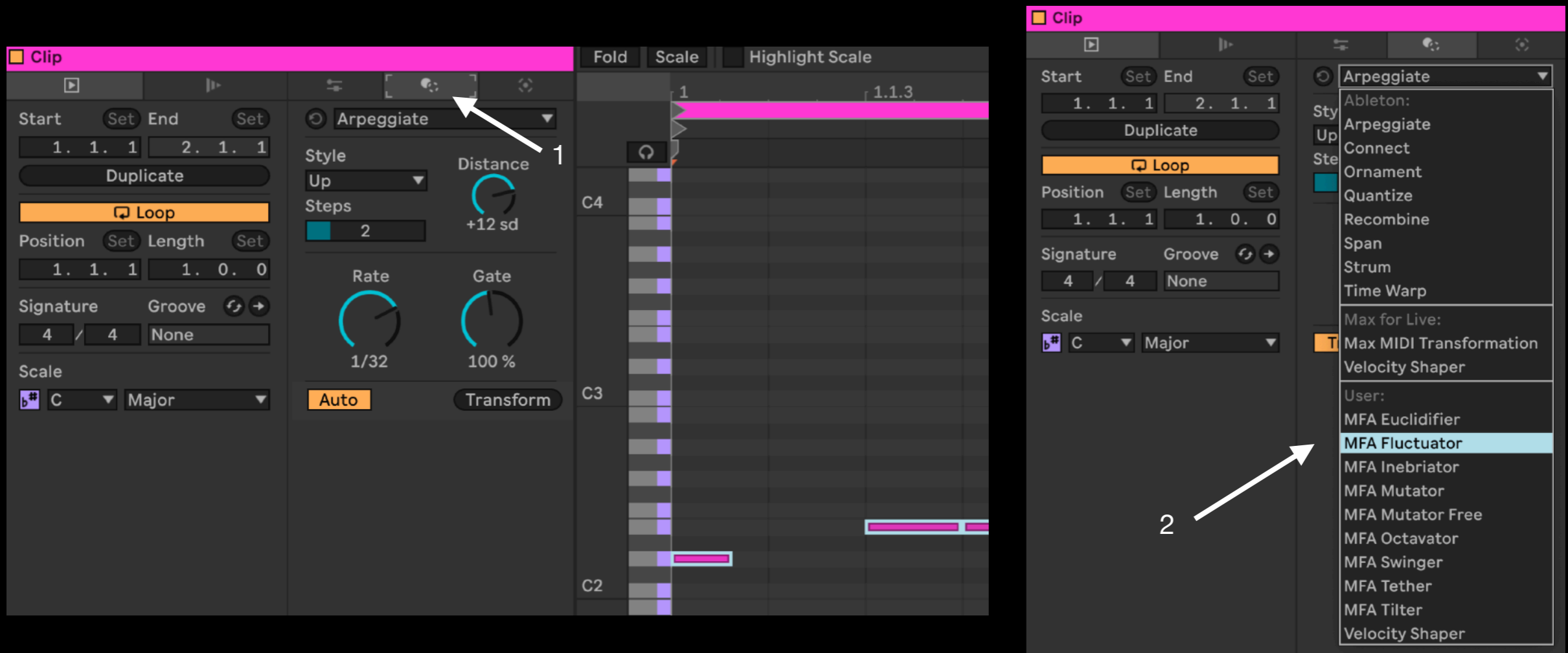
Transformation MIDI Tools are also accessed directly in Live's MIDI clips, but are only active when MIDI notes are already present.

To access our Transformers, select the Transformer tab (1) and select one from the User section of the drop-down menu (2).

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Overview

Designed to drive workflow, boost creativity, and access new musical realms, our second MIDI Toolset includes seven MIDI Generators and six MIDI Transformations.

Explore the power of call and response with Converser, linear programming with Hexaline, geometric melodies with Metagraph, rhythmic expressions with Metapulse, dive into new ideas with the intuitive Navigator, craft unusual percussion patterns with Percotope, and play a new twist on musical typing with Typewriter.

Then transform your MIDI patterns in the time domain with Chronoflex, create new interval transpositions with Intershift, remap any range of values with Remapper, syncopate any selection with Syncopator, dynamically modify parameter contours with Transcoder, and explore new count-based parameter trajectories with the unusual Vector.

All MIDI Tools are scale aware and Info View annotated to seamlessly enhance your creative experience.

MIDI GENERATORS
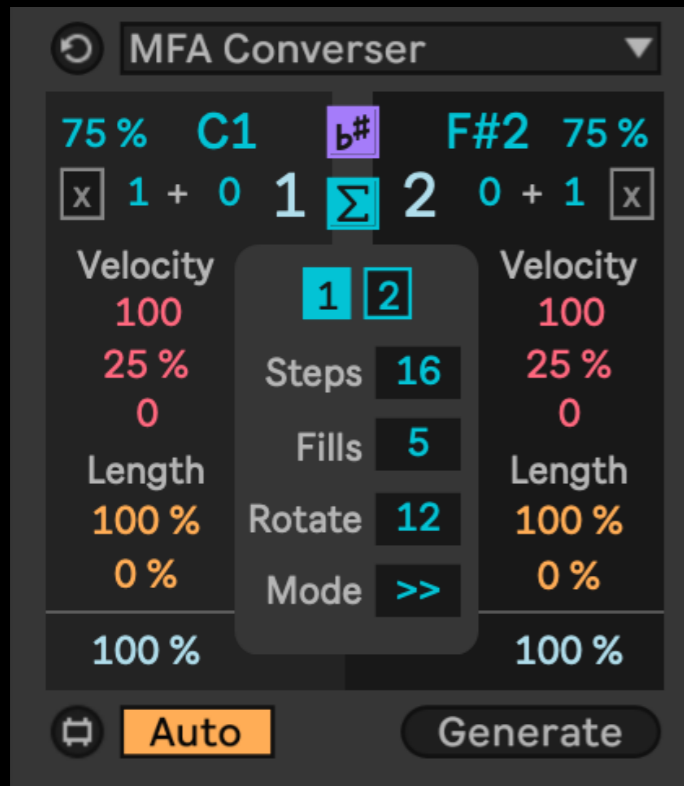
Generator 1: Converser

Two parallel voices can be probabilistically generated - or produced with Euclidean logic to create intricate call and response in a variety of patterns at the current note grid count. Each voice gets its own note pitch, density, count interval with offset, base velocity with randomization amount and deviation, note length with randomization amount, and probability.

At center is the Weight dial in the default mode to set which voice is favored - or toggle into Euclidean mode to set which side you're applying the main settings to, with steps, fills, rotation and direction, letting the other side fill the gaps. Enable scale awareness for melodic material.

Generator 2: Hexaline

Continuing with the theme of call and response, Hexaline generates patterns based on up to six available note choices which never over lap to produce linear drums or unique melodies at the current grid count.

Each note line gets a pitch, velocity, length, and probability, along with a mute key. Velocity, deviation, length, and chance of all steps can be set globally. In the default Rest mode, muted lines result in rest gaps in the pattern; toggle into Fill mode to instead generate a full new pattern based on the new count total voice count.

Finally, generation modes offer two random styles - along with forward, reverse, and elliptical generation with optional hold duration.
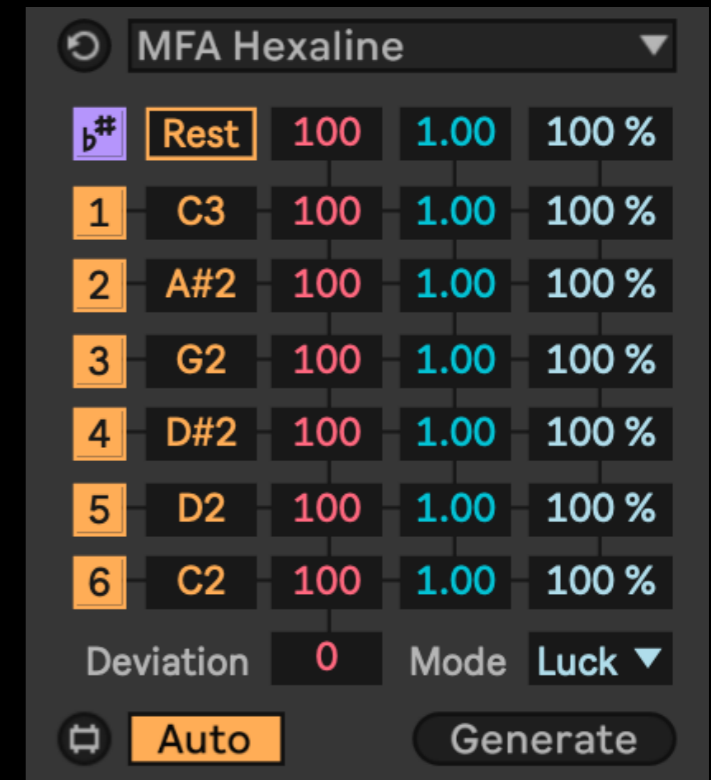
MIDI GENERATORS

Generator 3: Metagraph

Explore geometric melodies with Metagraph, plotting points on a grid to optionally be scaled between a variety of pitches, velocities, lengths, or probabilities. Globally control deviation, and randomize new patterns for scratch with an optional density control to reduce the number of grid points that to be filled.

Clear the pattern, or unlock the grid to enter to enter notes freehand. Set the number of vertical grid intervals to explore new note distributions with the lock activated, multiply the number of notes generated per interval with the division control, and reduce note output density to taste.

Enter Manual grid mode to create a horizontally tupletted note entry grid of any division. Zoom in on either axis, hold Shift and click to remove a breakpoint - or hold Alt/Option to impose curves on the line.
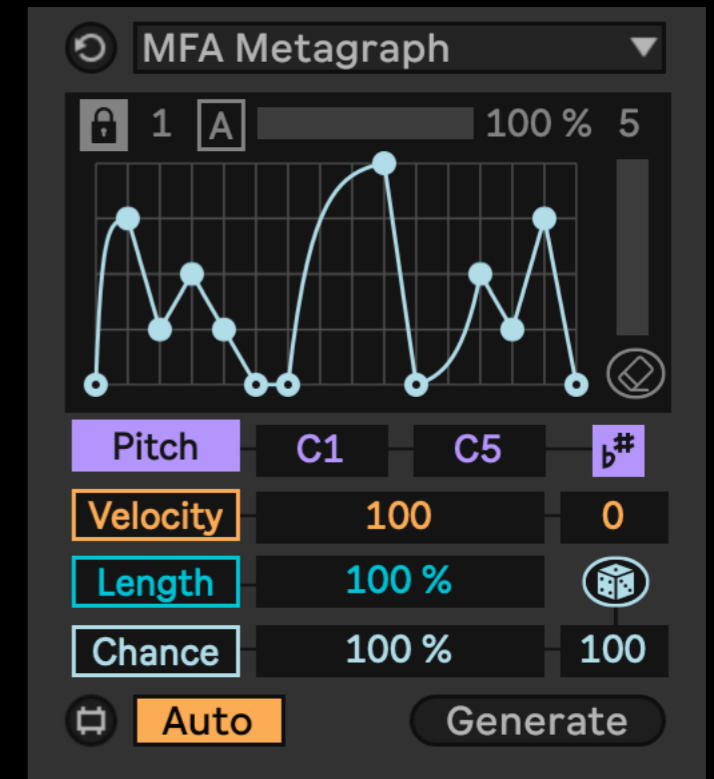
Generator 4: Metapulse

Inspired by our real-time Pulse Engine generator, Metapulse probabilistically generates new note pulses at the specified interval of the current grid setting, with a random division within the maximum selected each interval to generate complex note patterns.

Pitch, velocity, and length can all be randomized each interval, have positive or negative decay imposed each interval, and have the amount of that decay randomized each interval as well.

Explore different quantization restrictions - and enter the advanced mode to explore minimum and maximum limits on each pitch, velocity, or length decay, and decide on a behavior when those limits are reached: Clip at the obtained limit value, Wrap back to the upper limit, or Fold to reflect back in the opposite direction.

MIDI GENERATORS

Generator 5: Navigator

Navigator explores a range of possible MIDI patterns via a simple XY field. The vertical axis controls the variety of note pitches and velocities explored within the ranges defined at right, with increasing variety at higher values, while the horizontal axis controls the density of the pattern and the variety of note lengths as specified by the sliders at bottom. Density always increases going right, pitch range always expands going up - but horizontal note length and vertical velocity ranges can be inverted.

Velocity deviation and overall note probability can be set for all output globally. Increase the number slider below the scale awareness toggle to add up to six polyphonic voices within the note range. At bottom left, patterns will be more simple and sparse, at upper right they will be busiest and most complex.
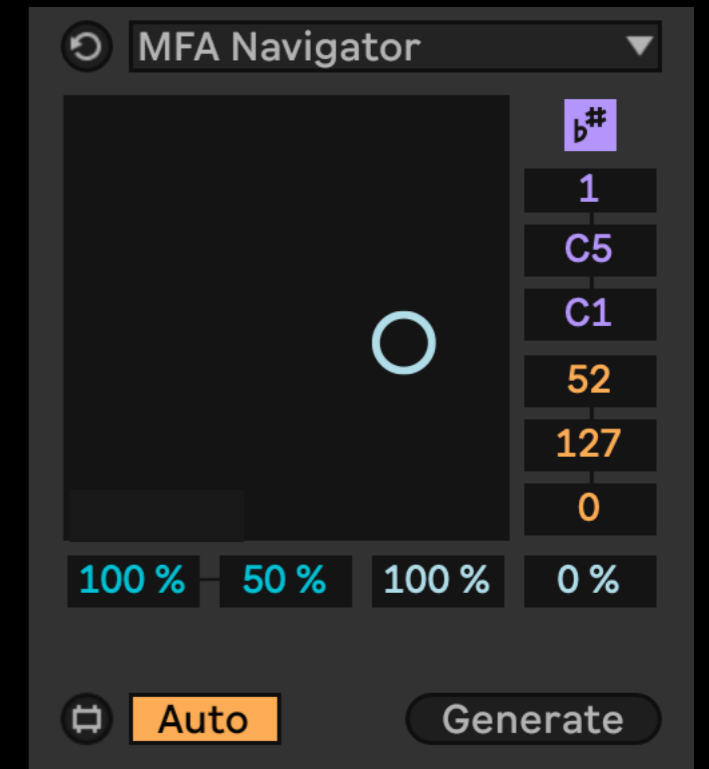
Generator 6: Percotope

Create unconventional unquantized rhythms by setting a destination note pitch, velocity, and arbitrary number of beats within a selected timespan. For more conventional patterns, enable noted editor grid quantization — or explore tuplet mode to quantize notes to any user-specified division of the current time selection. Either way, explore the unique Nudge control to shift the focus of the pattern forward or backward in time. Set the probability and deviation for all generated notes globally.
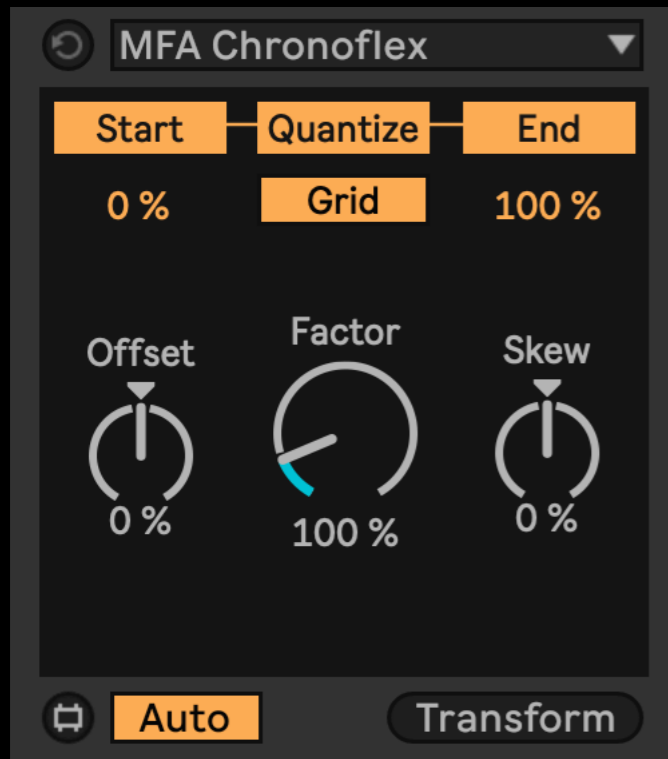
MIDI GENERATORS

Generator 7: Typewriter

Typewriter converts the ASCII values of typed or pasted text to generate unique MIDI patterns by remapping those values to a range of pitch, velocity, length, or probability values. You can also use them to control the rhythmic rate of generated notes - or gate notes above or below a specified ASCII value threshold. You can also skew the curve of how those values are interpreted. Up top you can set whether spaces are interpreted as rests, and whether individual characters are translated to MIDI - or whether entire words are averaged as discrete musical units instead.

MIDI TRANSFORMATIONS

Transformation 1: Chronoflex

Unlike note warp markers, Chronoflex allows for quantized manipulation of note timings. You can of course disable quantization overall, or apply it only to note starts or note ends. Toggle from grid to tuplet mode to create a custom quantization grid of any division of the current note selection.

Use the start and end range controls to compress or even invert patterns in the time domain. Use the Factor control to stretch or squeeze all selected notes, or try Offset to slide them all forward or backward together, or Skew to cluster notes forward or backward within the current selection.

Transformation 2: Intershift

Take a repetitive pattern and imbue with a narrative by randomizing note transposition by a chance amount within a specified range at an interval of the current Grid count - or in raw note count interval, with Optional offset either way. Be advised the graphical display is for reference purposes only.

MIDI TRANSFORMATIONS

Transformation 3: Remapper

Remap (and invert) selected notes to pitches in the current scale and key, new lengths, velocities, or probabilities. Up top, set the probability notes will be remapped, or apply an exponential curve to the remapping applied.

Transformation 4: Syncopator

Apply syncopation to selected notes via note activation, using a random algorithm to interpolate down to no syncopation. Invert to mute even note count values instead of odd note count values.

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Transformation 5: Vector

Apply deterministic count-based velocity, pitch, and length modulation at a specified interval (with optional inversion and offset), within specified ranges along with Clip, Wrap, or Fold limiting styles.

Transformation 6: Transcoder

Use the same Draw mode as Metasketch to intuitively apply dynamic MIDI transformations to polyphonic pitch, velocity, length, or chance within specified ranges.

Prefer the linear function of Metagraph? No problem - flip into Grid mode to apply dynamic breakpoint editing to the same ranges instead, easily applying extended contours to any note selection.

In either mode, easily randomize a starting point by clicking the dice, governed by the slider beneath for added randomization control too.
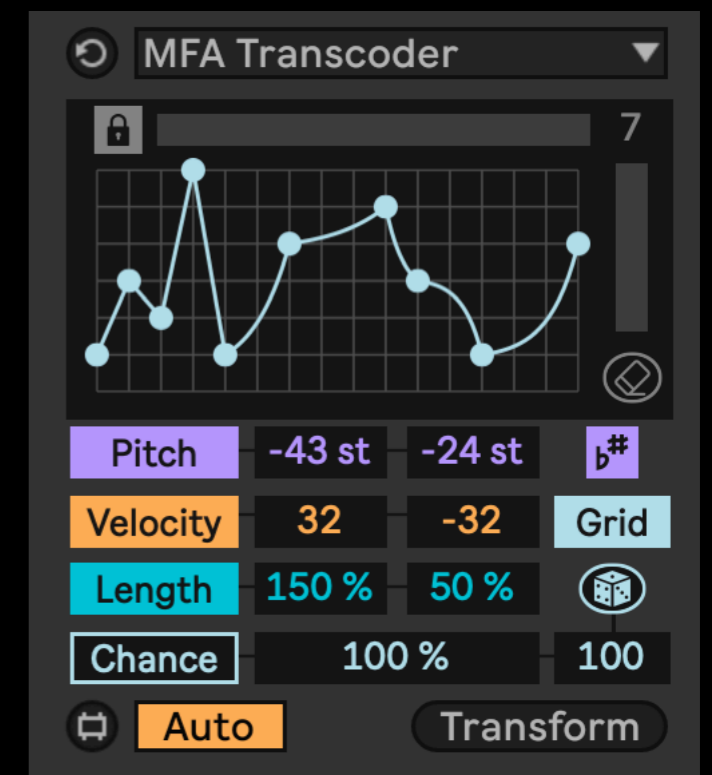
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Where can I find my new MIDI Tools?

Unlike Max for Live audio or MIDI effects, MIDI Tools are not accessed via Live's Browser. If installed as instructed in the MIDI Tools folder of your User Library, Live will automatically detect them and add them to the drop-down MIDI Transformation or MIDI Generator selection menus in the Transformer and Generator tabs of any MIDI Clip.

Why are my Tools not generating or transforming?

For notes to be generated or transformed, a selection of time or notes must be selected first. Then, be sure Generate or Transform is enabled beneath the MIDI Tool interface. Now changes to a MIDI Tool should be reflected in the Note Editor.

What if my MIDI Tools don't stop generating or transforming?

After achieving a desired state with your MIDI tools, click in the MIDI clip to reset the Apply Cycle so generation and transformation will only be applied to new selections and previous alterations will remain in place; to avoid continuous alterations during an Apply Cycle, disable the Generate or Transform button beneath a MIDI Tool and manually click the apply button to the right of it to see and hear your changes.

I don't want MIDI Toolset 002 to conform to Live 12's scale and key — is this possible?

If you want a MIDI Tool to ignore the current scale and key, disable Live's global scale and key settings; or if the Tool has a scale toggle, you can use that too.

How come some parameters don't continue randomizing?

To maintain consistency when using multiple MIDI Tools in a simultaneous chain, random seeds ensure certain parameters are only randomized a specific way at a given time; to re-randomize a MIDI Tool, just click Generate or Transform below the tool to produce a new random seed.

Why are some parameters not labeled?

Working within the limited range constraints, we have opted for color-coding where possible - but you can always check Live's Info View to understand any of our MIDI Tool parameters.

Where can I learn more about my MIDI Tool?

All our MIDI Tools are Info View annotated: just open Live's Info View, then hover over a MIDI Tool parameter to learn more about it.

My MIDI Tools look small — how do I make it bigger?

In the Display & Input tab of Live's Preferences pane, increase the Display Zoom percentage slider to 125% or 150% (values in between may result in irregular display issues on certain systems).

Thank you for supporting us by purchasing this device — we hope it inspires your creativity!

For more information, video tutorials, and other devices, please visit us online at: **manifest.audio**

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